

NEWS RELEASE

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Officer Creason Receives SRO of the year award

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The Bluffton Police Department is proud to announce that HE McCracken Middle School Police Resource Officer Michael Creason has been selected as the 2010-2011 Region 4 Lower State School Resource Officer of the Year. Corporal Creason was also presented with the first ever Eric Bamberg School Resource Officer of the year award, which goes out to the top SRO in the entire state of South Carolina. Mark McColman, president of the South Carolina Association of School Resource Officers (SCASRO), announced the award to Corporal Creason for his excellence in school based policing and safety during a ceremony at the SCASRO conference on June 30, 2011.

Bluffton Police Chief David McAllister said "Among many exceptional officers within the department and School Resource Officers across the state of South Carolina, Corporal Creason has demonstrated an unyielding level of commitment to the Bluffton Police Department's mission of public safety. His efforts are best illustrated by the many proactive investigations he has led while building meaningful relationships with members of our school community."

Mayor Lisa Sulka said "I have known Mike for a long time, these two awards represent what a great asset he is to the Bluffton Police Department, the local school district, and the Town of Bluffton. We are all very proud of his accomplishments as a School Resource Officer."

Corporal Creason has been the School Resource Officer for HE McCracken Middle school for the past 3 years. During his time as School Resource Officer, he has collaborated with students, parents, school administrators, and neighboring law enforcement agencies to create a safer school environment at the HE McCracken Middle School and surrounding Bluffton community. Corporal Creason also mentors fellow officers to aid them in their development. Corporal Creason has created a bicycle registration program that helps track any stolen or missing bicycles within the community.

Dr. Valerie Truesdale, Superintendant of Beaufort County School District said "Officer Creason is an SRO who demonstrates his dedication, leadership and good judgment on a daily basis. His

ability to resolve problems quickly and to communicate with people across a wide spectrum makes him a valuable asset to H.E. McCracken Middle School."

Chief David McAllister said "Corporal Creason is not only a police figure to the students of HE McCracken, he is also a mentor. It takes a special person to be able to do the things Corporal Creason does on a daily basis."



Captain Angel Tubbs, Chief David McAllister, and Corporal Mike Creason